

Egremont News

Issue 103

November, 2018

Rules & Regulations of this Newsletter:

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep residents informed of what is going on in our community. It is printed on a bi-monthly basis by the Selectmen's Office Staff. Articles submitted by Town Boards are not edited by the Select Board or Office Administrator. Outside organizations are allowed to submit articles of no longer than one column length. These articles are to be factual and will not be printed if they contain any political format, forum, or communication. We welcome reader input and hope you enjoy reading the Newsletter. If you wish to receive this newsletter via email please contact town hall.

Selectboard:

Welcome to fall. After a hot and wet summer we seemed to have jumped right into late fall weather. That leads us to beginning to think about the winter months, and snow. A few things to remember: Do not plow your snow into the roadway. That is a violation and will get you fined; Do not park along the roadsides where you would interfere with plowing/sanding. Your vehicle will be towed at your expense; Do remember to keep your driveways accessible, even if you are enjoying warmer climates, so that if something happens our emergency personnel can get to your home; do remember to drive carefully. Our crew does a great job keeping the roads snow and ice free, but they can't be everywhere at once.

The South Egremont School house foundation work is completed but there remains an empty school house. The School Committee expressed concern over lead paint inside and outside the building. The Town had a state inspector come in who said the building was safe for occupancy. The school didn't agree so hired a certified inspector who reports that there is lead paint inside and outside the building, though the soil is all safe. Currently the lawyers are in discussions as to the need for remediation and if done who pays for it.

The Seletboard has voted to withhold school assessment payments to the district until such time as the classroom is moved to the South Egremont School.

The Town has applied for the funds to make the ADA upgrades to the South Egremont School and should know by late November if a grant was awarded. The Town has until August 31, 2019 to make these upgrades. On November 6 at 7pm the Board will meet with MassDOT officials to discuss plans for the reconstruction of Route 23 in the village of South Egremont. The construction project itself won't take place until Fiscal Year 2022.

The board, after many months of frustration, voted to end negotiations with Charter/Spectrum for broadband and cable TV in Egremont. The Technology Committee has been directed to issue an RFP (request for proposals) for Broadband. This process with take at least a couple of months.

Technology Committee:

Charter cable TV licensing process comes to a head. Recall that at a meeting back on July 10, Charter and the Town reached what was thought to be verbal agreement on all remaining issues with the cable TV license agreement. Since that time, the Town had been waiting for Charter's final document reflecting these agreements, with the Town prodding Charter several times to move the process along. The highly regulated cable TV licensing process requires that the franchise applicant submit the final draft agreement to the Town.

On October 9 the Town received a new proposal from MBI/Charter. This was not the final draft of the earlier agreement that we had been expecting. Instead, it was a new proposal from MBI and Charter. Apparently, Charter had determined that their original June 2017 agreement with MBI in which the state granted an award of \$1,185,000 to build out cable infrastructure covering 96% of dwellings in Egremont is insufficient. Charter now claimed that they require an additional \$1,100,000, or a total of \$2,285,000, to build a cable TV system in Egremont because of much higher "make-ready" costs due to exceptionally poor utility pole conditions.

Also as part of the new proposal, MBI had rethought their funding model. They now required a Town contribution of \$607,500 toward the new total cost. The new proposal still anticipated covering only 96% of the Town, and we still did not know the specific locations of the 4% gap. Moreover, the new MBI/Charter proposal did not include any draft of the actual cable TV license agreement, so we did not know if Charter had made accommodation for the understandings reached at the July 10 meeting.

On Monday, October 15, the Board of Selectmen met to consider this new development. Peter Larkin, chair of MBI, attended the meeting to present the new Charter proposal and answer questions not only about the proposal but also about other options available to the Town. Mr. Larkin reminded the Board that the state originally allocated \$1,070,000 for support of broadband networking in Egremont. He went on to say that should the Town decide to end negotiations with Charter, the original funding allocation would still be available to the Town as long as the intended use met the state's legal and financial sustainability requirements.

Town seeks alternative vendor to build out network. Given the new and unexpected burden of \$607,500 on Egremont taxpayers, the still-unsettled cable TV license agreement, and Charter's history of poor response, missed milestones, and unfulfilled promises throughout the license negotiations, the Board of Selectmen (BOS) voted to end discussions with Charter. Instead, the BOS instructed the Technology Committee to prepare a Request for Proposals (RFP), consistent with Massachusetts public procurement law, to identify a vendor to complete the network build out to all parts of Egremont not already covered by the existing Fiber Connect infrastructure. There are, of course, new questions and issues associated with this approach, and the Technology Committee will be working through these over the coming months.

At the BOS meeting, Selectman George McGurn recused himself from the vote and also stepped down from the Technology Committee. Fiber Connect is a client of Mr. McGurn's wife Mary. McGurn wanted to be in full compliance with Massachusetts ethics rules and to avoid any appearance of conflict of interest. We appreciate

George's invaluable contribution to the work of the Committee over the past couple of years.

ECO-TIP

<u>NOT</u> FOR THE RECYCLE BIN at Transfer Station: Keurig pods, water or wine glasses, ceramic dishware.

Council on Aging:

COA started off the fall calendar with our annual, very special, birthday celebration. We honored two of our seniors who turned 90 in 2018....Grace Gleason and Jerome Hellman. It was great to have Rep. "Smitty" Pignatelli join us to present certificates to them both. We also honored all our 90 plus seniors. Birthday cake was enjoyed by all. Thanks to Sara Keene there was a very special program honoring those seniors who have passed this past year. John Cheek, international opera singer (and Egremont resident accompanied by Sara, sang a medley of patriotic songs to honor our veterans who passed. Laura Danehower Whyte, soprano, also accompanied by Sara, performed Rachmaninoff's "Vocalize . It was a truly memorable afternoon. How fortunate we are to have these very talented musicians living in Egremont and willing to share their talents with us!



November 7th will feature Roger "the Jester" who will entertain us with......juggling? Magic? Join us to see what Roger has up his sleeve to entertain us.. On December 5th David Bosco, a history professor, will share his extensive knowledge of Pearl Harbor. We can always learn something new about this historical event. December also features our Holiday Party to be held on Sunday, Dec 9th. Sandy and Sandy will be returning again this year to share their very entertaining musical style.

On January 9th David Katzenstein will be the presenter at our monthly luncheon. David's topics will include basic first-aid, when to call the ambulance and what to do until the ambulance arrives.

As always our luncheons are at 12:00 at the Egremont Village Inn. We suggest a donation pf \$5.00 to help us

defray expenses. Reservations can be made by calling Will at the Town Hall at 528-0182 x 17.

One of COA's goals is to keep our seniors safe in their homes. In September, with the assistance of the Egremont Police Department, we started a program called "Good Morning, Senior". Participants call in Monday thru Friday, between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. to a designated number to assure us they are safe. The program is open to all seniors and to others who may be disabled or who may have a temporary disability. There is a flyer with more information included in this newsletter or call Peg at 528-0182 x 24.

Can't get to the Library but want to be able to get the latest books? COA, in cooperation with Egremont Free Library and Librarian Lesliann Furcht will deliver books to your home. Call Lesliann at 528-1474 and tell her what books you would like and COA will get them to you.

Fire safety is always important and especially at this time of year when many of us turn on our furnaces for the season or start up wood stoves. Age Friendly Berkshires is pleased to be partnering with the American Red Cross to promote their very-age-friendly HOME FIRES Campaign. This campaign aims to decrease the number of deaths and injuries caused by home fires. The RED CROSS will install up to three (3) 10-year sealed smoke alarms and one carbon monoxide alarm per home FREE OF CHARGE. This offer is open to any Berkshire County homeowner, regardless of age or income. While installing these alarms, the Red Cross will also review safety tips with residents.

To get your FREE Smoke and Carbon Monoxide alarms, call 1-800-746-3511 to schedule your install appointment.

Senior Coffee Hours continue on the third Wednesday of each month from 9:30 – 10:30 at Mom's Café. Join us for a relaxed hour of conversation and fun with your neighbors. Personal Fitness Programs continue with Elaine Ireland on Thursdays from 10:30 – 11:45 at the South Egremont Congregational Church. Elaine's Classes stress flexibility, movement and agility. For more information call Peg at 528-0182 x24. COA would like to thank Liz Jaffe for volunteering to teach multiple classes this summer on the use of iPad/iPhones. Liz plans to be back with us next

summer. We are in the process of setting up additional computer classes to be offered this winter.

David Katzenstein continues to teach the CPR Classes at the North Egremont Fire Station. The last class for 2018 will be on Saturday, Nov. 17, from 10:00 – 12:00. This will be the AHA Family and Friends CPR Class for those wishing to learn basic CPR. Class size is limited so to register call David at 413-441-1569. More class dates will be announced in 2019.

Here comes winter and with it ice and snow and an increased risk of falls. To help you out COA will again be sponsoring the "Sand for Seniors" Program. Starting in November we will have buckets of sand (they will be liftable for seniors) available at the Town Hall for you to pick up. If you can't get to the Town Hall call 528-0182 x24 and we will deliver one to you. If you would like to donate plastic buckets for this please leave them at the Town Hall .

Don't forget your "Be See, Be Safe" vest. Just because it's November and it's dark much earlier it's no reason to stop walking/running. But to protect yourself PLEASE wear one of these colorful vests provided for free by the COA. You can pick one up at the Egremont Town Hall or the Egremont Police Station.



If you need assistance, have suggestions or concerns please call Peg Muskrat at the Town Hall at $528\text{-}0182 \times 24$

ECO-TIP

Throw used contact lenses and dental floss in the garbage, not in the toilet. The waste from septic tanks goes to wastewater treatment plants. These plastics survive the treatment and end up in our waterways.

Emergency Management:

If you or someone you know would like to be checked on in an emergency such as severe weather

events or power outages, please let us know! You may call or email the Town Hall or the Police Department and we would be happy to check in with you if the need arises. If you would like to change or add your contact information in the Town's Alert System, please let us know the pertinent contact numbers and email addresses. On Thursday November 8, the Town will send a test call to all residents to assure the contact information we have is accurate. If you do not receive the call, please let us know at 413-528-0182 ext 17 or email wbrinker@egremont-ma.gov

As the winter season approaches, it is important to be prepared!

Check flashlights and portable radios to ensure that they are working, and you have extra batteries. A radio is an important source of weather and emergency information during a storm.

Ensure that your Smoke and Carbon Monoxide (CO) detectors are working correctly and have fresh batteries. Check your outside fuel exhaust vents, making sure that they are not obstructed by snow or ice. Never use cooking equipment intended for outside use indoors as a heat source or cooking device.

Make sure you always have a well-stocked Winter Home Emergency Supply Kit that includes flashlights, portable radio, extra batteries, a first aid kit, bottled water, non-perishable food and a manual can opener.

Please note that during a power outage, National Grid may not be aware of your individual situation. Make sure they are aware of your loss of power by calling them at 800-322-3223. Also, please call the Egremont Police Department so they are aware of possible downed power lines, etc. They may be reached at 413-528-2160.

ECO-TIP

Palm oil is in more than half of our packaged products, including cookies, bread, shampoo, soda, pet food. Tropical forests are cleared to plant palms, destroying critical wildlife habitat. Look for the RSPO trademark to support sustainable palm oil produced without causing harm to the environment.

Fire Depar	tment:	
Date	Time	Call #
/Location		/Type
8/25/2018	11:28PM	136
Egremont H		Outside Fire
readings on their contrast to the	12:29PM	137
Main St.		False/Alarm
8/31/2018	2.43PM	138
Button Ball		False/Alarm
9/1/2018		139
Under Mour		Medical
9/7/2018		
Jug End Rd	10.36111	140
The second of th	10.12 43 4	Medical
Under Mour	10:12AM	141
		Medical
9/15/2018		142
Pine Crest F		Alarm/False
	12:31PM	143
PORTER AND PORTER PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF	Townhouse hill	
	8:54AM	144
	Washington	Alarm/False
9/19/2018		145
Under Moun	ıtain Rd.	Alarm/False
9/20/2018	6:52AM	146
Egremont Pl	ain Rd.	Alarm/False
9/22/2018	3:06Pm	147
Bash Bish Fa	alls Mt. Washing	ton Rescue
9/24/2018	0:22AM	148
East St. Mt.	Washington	Medical
	1:36PM	149
Baldwin Hill	N/S	Alarm/False
9/25/2018	7:34PM	150
Prospect Lak		Medical
9/26/2018		151
Baldwin Hill		Alarm/False
9/26/2018	6:36PM	152
Baldwin Hill		Medical
9/26/2018	7:10PM	153
Avenue	7.10111	Alarm/False
9/26/2018	7:12PM	154
Jug End Rd.	7.121 WI	
9/28/2018	4:06PM	Medical
Main St.	4:00PIVI	155
	6.20 4 3 4	Medical
10/4/2018	6:30AM	156
Sheffield Rd		Alarm/False
10/6/2018	5:25PM	157
Prospect Lak		Medical
10/8/2018	6:29AM	158

Fire Department

East St, Mt Washington	Medical
10/8/2018 8:27AM	159
Hill Top Rd.	Medical
10/9/2018 6:53AM	160
Hill Top Rd.	Medical
10/10/2018 4:07PM	161
East St. Mt. Washington	Alarm/False
10/13/2018 6:52pm	162
Under Mountain Rd.	Search
10/14/2018 10:03PM	163
Copake Fire Sta. NY	Standby/Mutual aid
10/18/2018 4:55PM	164
Prospect Rd.	Medical
10/21/2018 2:30PM	165
Monument Mt. GB Rescue	Dog Mutual Aid

ECO-TIP

Disposing of an old, inefficient refrigerator? Contact MassSaves

(www.masssave.com/en/learn/blog/residential/addin g-up-the-benefits-of-over-ten-years-of-appliance-recycling). They pick up the old frig, recycle it and dispose of its hazardous materials responsibly, <u>and</u> send you a \$50 check.

Water Department:

The Department makes constant efforts to discover and repair leaks; replacement of older service lines continues. The Water Department saves process time (and money) by treating less water as a result of these efforts.

As the colder weather sets in, remember to check outside hose faucets! If the spigot is not frost proof, it should be drained to avoid freezing.

Did you know that a dripping faucet can waste 20 gallons of water a day? A leaky toilet can waste 200 gallons a day. These leaks waste your water and your money.

Toilet Leaks are hard to detect. They are usually caused by a bad main valve, flapper valve seat, a bad flush valve, an improperly positioned float arm, or a defective overflow tube. Test your toilets by dropping a few drops of food coloring into the water in the tank. DO NOT FLUSH! Wait for 15 to 20 minutes. If color appears in the bowl, then you have a leak and repairs need to be made.

Faucet Leaks are easy to find. If it drips, or worse, continues running after you shut it off, it needs

to be fixed. If the dripping water is warm, it is costing you extra money! Water dripping or running from the shower head when the shower is turned off firmly, it is usually caused by bad washers or seats which need replacing. Also, check for leaks from the tub faucet when the shower is turned on. This leak will defeat the purpose of a low-flow shower head because the water you save with the low-flow device is lost from the tub faucet.

If you have any questions about water supply or billing, the Water Department Clerk is available at Town Hall Monday - Friday from 7 to 3; telephone 528-0182 ext 17. Happy Holidays!

Police Department:

The men and women of the Egremont Police continue to work hard to meet the needs of the community. Officer shortages have continued to be filled with the addition of Officer Jeffrey Spratt who will be filling one of our open part-time officer positions. Officer Spratt has been working part-time in the Town of Sheffield and brings with him experience of the job and our community. I hope you will join us in welcoming Officer Spratt to the town, and give him a friendly wave when you see him. We have also made progress in filling our open full-time position left open with the departure of Officer Kemp. We hope to have the candidate approved at the next BOS meeting.

We continue in our mission to be as accessible and transparent as possible by adding to our social media presence. In October we went online with our Twitter account which will hopefully help to inform the community. You can now follow us on Twitter @EgremontPolice and on Facebook at "Town of Egremont Police"

The "Good Morning Senior" program has continued to be a positive experience and has shown potential for growth. This program is open to any town resident 65 or older who lives alone and/or could use someone to check in on them. Interested residents are encouraged to contact Peg Muskrat at Town Hall for information. Peg can be reached by email at coa@egremont-ma.gov. You can also contact Chief Josephson at (413) 528-2160 for information.

Planning Board:

The Planning Board has been active on several fronts.

We have been analyzing the results of our Citizen's Questionnaire, which received about 329 responses from Egremont residents and homeowners. In addition to our own analysis, we have asked Mark Maloy, of the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, to provide us with his insight on how to interpret the results in the planning context. We expect to invite Mark to a future meeting to discuss the results with us and answer questions that the Planning Board or public may have.

The Planning Board has continued to discuss the Recreation Overlay District bylaw at its meetings, and evaluate whether this bylaw is needed. The Planning Board has drafted a report summarizing our findings that will be presented to the Select Board.

We have decided to propose that the Moratorium on the retail sale of marijuana ("recreational marijuana" or "adult use marijuana") be extended, in order to allow us to review and learn from other towns' bylaws that have been approved by the Attorney General, as they will provide guidance for creating our own adult use marijuana bylaw.

The Planning Board is currently discussing the feasibility of implementing a residential groundmounted solar panel bylaw.

As always, the Planning Board welcomes you to join us at our regular meetings upstairs at Town Hall, usually held every other Monday at 7 pm. Please check the town website to confirm, as dates are subject to change.

Library:

Egremont Free Library and Mount Washington Library trustees and I are excited to announce a wonderful day trip to the New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) in Boston on <u>Wednesday</u>, <u>November 14</u>.

We're hiring a comfortable passenger van to bring us to Boston. We'll leave early and arrive around 11:30 a.m. One of NEHGS's professional genealogists will provide a personal tour and presentation on "Getting Started in Genealogy." You will have free time to explore records and resources and do some individual research. We'll provide wrap sandwiches from Mom's during our visit. After completing our time at NEHGS, group members are welcome to dine out on Newbury Street. The van will leave for home no later than 7 p.m.

Each participant will pay a \$20 fee to register. The trip is sponsored by Egremont and Mount Washington libraries. Many thanks to Egremont and Mount Washington's Councils on Aging for contributing \$100 each.

For \$20 fee, you'll receive the following:

- · Roundtrip transportation to Boston
- Lunch
- · Entry to NEHGS and personalized tour and instruction

Dinner is on your own and not included in the fee. NEHGS is located on 99-101 Newbury Street, Boston, so there are some incredible restaurants nearby. We'll leave at 7 p.m. promptly, so keep that in mind.

First come, first served. There are 21 spots available. Seven people are signed up, so 14 spots remain. Invitation is for Egremont and Mount Washington patrons and their family/friends.

To sign up, you may either email EGRlibrary@egremont-ma.gov, come to Egremont Free Library in person (hours listed below) or call 528-1474. You must pay \$20 fee within 48-hours of registration to secure your spot. Please contact me to arrange payment. Deadline for registration is Wednesday, November 7 by 5 p.m.

ECO-TIP

Check your car's tire pressure, especially in winter. Poorly inflated tires waste gas.

Democratic Committee:

Thinking about running for a position on the Selectboard in May? The Egremont Democratic Committee would like to hear from you! It is anticipated that the seat will be open. Also, if you are interested in joining the Democratic Committee, please let us know. Email Marj Wexler or call 528-3726

or Erika Nelson (or call/text 347-306-7686).

Meeting schedule:

Meeting regularly. Subject to change. Please see postings of meetings at Town Hall and the Post Offices for more detail. This is not official.

Archives Room - First Saturday 9-noon

or by appointment

Assessors - Tuesdays & Thursdays 9am to 12noon & by appointment

Council on Aging - Third Wednesday of each month at 11am. Administrative Assistant is at Town Hall Thursday 9am to 12noon.

Board of Health - Monday-Thursday 7am to 12noon. Meetings - Thursdays as posted 10am

Board of Selectmen - Meetings every other Monday evenings 7pm. Office weekdays 7am to 3pm.

Building Inspector - Tuesday 12:30pm to 3:30pm. Other times and inspections by appointment Conservation Commission - Second and Fourth Thursdays 7:00pm

Finance Committee - January through April. Other times as needed.

Library - Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 2-6pm & Saturday 9-12noon 413-528-1474

Planning Board - Please check web page for meeting dates.

School Committee: Second & Fourth Thursdays 6pm Mt. Everett High School Library

Tax Collector: Monday - Friday 7:00am to 3:00pm Town Clerk - Mon-Thurs 1pm to 3pm or by appointment

Transfer Station - Tuesday & Thursday 8am to 1pm, Saturday 8am to 3pm, Sunday 12noon to 4pm

Water Department - Office Clerk weekdays 7am-3pm Meetings second Thursday 3:00pm at Town Hall Zoning Board of Appeals - as needed

To reach a board member or to leave a message please call the Town Hall 528-0182.

Business listings:

In an effort to promote local small businesses, the following businesses/services located in, or near, Egremont have agreed to be listed here. If we missed asking you and you wish to be included, please send your information to the Town Hall. Support local businesses:

Prospect Lake Park and Campground - camping, swimming 413-528-4158 prospectlk@aol.com www.prospectlakepark.com

Egremont residents receive a discount to access the beach.

The Inn at Sweet Water Farm - B&B 1 Prospect Lake Road 413-528-2882 www.innsweetwater.com

John Andrews' Restaurant - Restaurant 413-528-3469

Swiss Hutte Country Inn and Restaurant-Restaurant & Lodging 413-528-6200 www.swisshutte.com

Robin's Chair Caning - Chair caning and repairs.
Robin Walther
116 Egremont Plain Road
413-528-2537
robinschaircaning@gmail.com

Red Barn Antiques - Antique lighting & fine metal polishing 413-528-3230

41 Main Antiques Gallery - Vintage and modern furniture, antiques, collectibles, architectural and decorative objects.
413-528-0112
www.41mainantiques.com

Blue Rider Stables - Therapeutic Horseback Riding Lessons, summer programs www.bluerider.org 413-528-5299

Green River Arabians & Pintos -Horse Boarding, lessons, judging, farm programs 413-528-2367 arabpinto13@yahoo.com

Indian Line Farm - Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) & Farmers Markets 413-528-8301

www.indianlinefarm.com

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Ivory Pond Farm Llamas, Yarn and Woolens. Dancing Crane Rug
Hooking Studio. Hooked rugs, lessons and supplies.
Tom & Liz Marino
413-528-9465
www.lizmarinorughooking.com
Llamama@wildblue.net

Turner Farms Maple Syrup - Phillips Road, open 7am to 7pm 7 days a week. Syrup and Honey 413-528-5710

Skip DelVaglio – Old Drone Apiary at Frog Cottage (Local Honey) 1257 Sheffield – Egremont Road 413 528-2308

Frog Cottage Goodies: Phyllis & Cynthia Pies, cakes, cookies, fudge, fruitcakes, cheesecakes 1257 Sheffield/Egremont Road Great Barrington MA 01230 413-528-2308

Elfi Six Shiatsu/Acutonics®, Bodywork 413-644-9979 www.CosmicResonance.com

Zorn Family Chiropractic-Chiropractor 44 Main Street, South Egremont 413-528-9654 healingspiritdc@yahoo.com

Zorn Core Fitness Personal, Couples & Group Training
Cardio Room - \$25 @ month Free 1 month cardio
for Egremont residents zornari@gmail.com
46 Main Street, South Egremont
413-528-1594 www.zorncorefitness.com

Yoga at Zorn Core Fitness, with Karin Beebe Ashtanga Yoga & Gentle/Hatha Yoga 46 Main Street, South Egremont 413-528-0828 kbyoga@gmail.com Amelia's Holistic Facial Rejuvenation Combined with Reiki Level II A licensed Aesthetician...

"Look and feel as though you just enjoyed a two-week vacation...without the jet lag. 518.320.8314

<u>AmeliasHolisticFacials@gmail.com</u>

Old Egremont Country Store - groceries, beer, wine, liquor, newspapers, lottery, & much more 413-528-4796

Blueberry Lane Home Design - Interior decorating 413-528-9633

Closet Collection - clothing & household consignment shop 413-528-6236

Berkshire Veneer Company - wholesale/retail wood veneer sales 413-644-9696

Steve Agar - driving services Ride to the airport, train, etc 413-717-1607

Lord St. Pierre - General Contractor Home renovations, maintenance and monitoring 413-522-3671 llstpierre@yahoo.com

"Jack of All Trades"-Handyman Services Jack Buckley 413-528-1982 413-446-1982

James Olmsted - Outdoor Services & Caretaking Field Mowing 413-528-0102 413-717-2443

Bonnie Wells: general housekeeping, maintenance to construction clean-up, ironing, polishing, organizing, window washing with free screen cleaning. 413-854-7417 bonbonz75@yahoo.com

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Catamount Ski Area - Skiing & ropes course 413-528-1262 www.catamountski.com

Peter Goldberg, Realtor Residential, Commercial, Land Stone House Realty 35 Railroad Street, Great Barrington 413-281-6384m 413-528-42110

Anita Schilling - Real Estate Listing & Sales William Pitt Sotheby's 413-528-4192 or 413-626-1920 anitaschilling@gmail.com

Kenver Ltd - Winter Sports Equipment, Apparel & Accessories
39 Main Street
413-528-2330 www.kenverltd.com

Maple Leaf Art Gallery - Joan Mentzinger 154 Hillsdale Road, Route 23

Cyber Knight - Matthew Wall PC repairs - Networking - Internet 413-854-8660 Matthew.wall@yahoo.com

Dellea.biz Computer Services - Arthur Dellea http://www.dellea.biz 413-528-1141

Berkshire Wildlife Solutions - Resolving conflicts with nature. Eric F. Ives
Mass Problem Animal Control Agent
Consultation/Inspection, Capture, removal and exclusionary work.
413-528-9813
413-250-5094

Brookside Quiltworks - Catherine Kane - fabric shop and quilt gallery. 2 Sheffield Road, Egremont 413-528-0445 www.brooksidequiltworks.com

Maple Shade Enterprises: Quilts and Sewing, much more
Sue Delmolino Ives
413-644-0229 susandelmolino@yahoo.com

Stitched by JessaLu - Jessica Meyer Handmade bags for your "Stuff"! www.stitchedbyjesselu.com

Berkshire Sewn - Mary Gifford berkshiresewn@gmail.com 413-528-3040

Gregory Cherin Photography, South Egremont 1-917-991-0553 <u>info@gregorycherin.com</u> <u>www.gregorycherin.com</u>

Berkshire Band Instrument Co. - Kevin S. Wheeler 185 Route 71, Egremont MA 01230 413-528-4955

Hillsdale Healthcare
Primary health care. Accepting most MA, NY and CT insurance. DOT certified.
2828 State Route 23, Four Brothers Plaza, Hillsdale NY 518-325-2273

Berkshire South Regional Community Center 15 Crissey Road, Great Barrington MA 413-528-2810 www.berkshiresouth.org Non-profit community organization serving 17 towns throughout the Southern Berkshires. Providing a variety of educational, recreational and cultural programs for all ages - from early childhood to senior citizens - and partners with several local organizations.

Gogel & Gogel - Law Firm
Business law & litigation
40 Main Street
413-528-2698 www.gogel-gogel.com

House To House Hauling & Recycling 413-528-0943 Trash hauling services and roll-off containers services.

Jana Laiz: Local Author www.crowfliespress.com 413-528-0943 www.janalaiz.com

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Erika Ludwig Founder/Teacher Berkshire Strings -Instruction & Inspiration

erika@berkshirestrings.com www.berkshirestrings.com www.fiddlingfemmes.com https://berkshirestrings.youcanbook.me/ 413-528-5739

Aston Magna Music Festival
Saturday evenings at the new Saint James Place in
Great Barrington, mid-June to mid-July.
www.astonmagna.org
Susan Obel, Executive Director

Dwelling in the Past: Lynn H. Wood, historic land records research dwelling.LHW@gmail.com Elisabeth L. Wood, historic and genealogical research

dwelling.ELW@gmail.com
Offering the opportunity to find out the history of our home, and learn how its former occupants contributed in shaping the community we live in today. The local research team has extensive knowledge of the archival tools available, and combines that with years of experience in using those resources for bringing the past back into the light.
P.O. Box 558
South Egremont MA 01258
413-528-3919
Call for a complimentary consultation.



Town of Egremont
P.O. Box 368
South Egremont MA 01258
413-528-0182
www.egremont-ma.gov

www.egremont-ma.gov tegremont@egremont-ma.gov

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"The Town of Egremont is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

GOOD MORNING SENIOR

How about taking a moment to check in, say hello, get some assistance if you need it.

CALL GOOD MORNING SENIOR

at 528-0891 between 9-10 a.m. every morning.

Sign up to do this, and we'll listen every morning for your call. If you don't call, we'll call you and make sure everything is OK.

So, whaddya say? **TAKE A MOMENT** ... **EVERY MORNING GIVE US A CALL**

If you'd like to sign up for *GOOD MORNING SENIOR*, call Peg Muskrat at Town Hall, 528-0182, x24. If you have questions, Peg can help.

A PROGRAM FROM THE EGREMONT COUNCIL ON AGING

nationalgrid









Simple Steps to Identify a Scam.

Utility and billing payment scams have become so sophisticated that they can be difficult to identify. We want to warn you of some tactics that scammers are using, and give you some tips on how to avoid falling victim to one of these scams.

Things to watch out for:

- You receive a request asking you to make a payment using a new payment method, whether it be new routing information, a new "ship to" address, or any other changes that vary from how you traditionally pay. This is a common practice used by scammers to get funds transferred to their accounts.
- If you receive an email from National Grid, be sure to confirm that the domain name you received the
 email from is exactly "@nationalgrid.com." Scammers sometimes create email accounts that
 appear similar to the company's authentic email account (e.g. @natonalgrid.com; @nationalgrid.com).
- Phishing scams are efforts to trick someone into providing information, often by pretending to be a different person or entity. These email messages appear to come from a familiar or trusted sender and target recipients who have confidential or personal information that the scammer wants. Confirm that the email is from a legitimate source before supplying any confidential or personal information. If you think that you may be a victim of a scam please contact your local representative via telephone or contact us at cyberresponse@nationalgrid.com.

a scam that is built to order

for Construction Contractors.

Most of the scams we report on are aimed at defrauding consumers, but there's a new one out there with a very specific target: construction contractors.

The initial contact usually arrives via a text or email, from an unknown person who seems desperate to hire the contractor for urgent remodeling or other construction-related projects. This 'homeowner' may claim to be disabled, or currently in a distant state or foreign country, or even deployed overseas with the military, and only reachable by email or text. (Instant red flag!)

These scammers will persistently contact the contractor, requesting a bid and contract be sent as soon as possible. Further, they want to pay for the services up-front with a check, money order or credit card, before any work is done.

Two scenarios might follow from here. Either the 'client' offers to pay more than the bid (for a variety of seemingly plausible reasons), or 'accidentally' overpays. In either case, he or she demands the 'extra' money be paid back via wire transfer, prepaid cash or gift card, or other similar method. It goes without saying that the original means of payment is bogus, most likely counterfeit (if



a check) or stolen (credit card). The entire objective is to steal money from the business.

Almost always, the perpetrator has no connection at all to the property involved.

These frauds have been reported in at least three states and are bound to expand. The Better Business Bureau (BBB) offers the following advice to contractors or other businesses contacted via email or text messages about work:

- Research a prospective client carefully before agreeing to do any work. Be especially wary of anyone who says he or she can communicate only via email or text messaging.
- Ask for personal references to vouch for the client's identity.

- Request proof that the prospective client actually owns the property scheduled for work.
- Be wary of any checks or money orders from strangers. Make sure they have cleared your bank before doing any further business.
- Be wary of so-called overpayments.
 This often is a signal that you are being scammed.
- Be particularly suspicious of anyone asking you to pay them with a wire transfer such as MoneyGram or Western Union, or a prepaid gift or cash card.

If you feel you are the victim of a scam, contact BBB and post the information on BBB's Scam Tracker. You also may contact your attorney general's office and the Federal Trade Commission.

This document is designed to provide informative material and is distributed with the understanding that it does not constitute legal or other professional advice. Opinions expressed herein are subject to change without notice. Information has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, but its accuracy and interpretation are not guaranteed.



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FRIDAY	2	o	16	23 Town Hall Closed	30
THURSDAY	Ţ.	8 Assessors 9-12 Board of Health 7- 12:30 Town Clerk 1-3 Water Dept 3p	15 Assessors 9-12 Board of Health 7- 12:30 Town Clerk 1-3 Conservation Comm	Thanksgiving Day Town Hall Closed	Assessors 9-12 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3
WEDNESDAY	Town Hall remont-ma.gov 12-4	7 Board of Health 7- 12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	14 Board of Health 7- 12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	21 Council on Aging 11am Board of Health 7- 12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	28 Board of Health 7- 12:30 Town Clerk 1-3
TUESDAY	Tentative- Subject to Change- Check With Town Hall Town Hall Monday-Friday 7-3pm Phone: 413-528-0182 Fax: 413-528-5465 Website: www.egremont-ma.gov Email: tegremont@egremont-ma.gov Transfer Station: Tues, Thur 8-1; Sat 8-3; Sun 12-4 Library: Mon, Tues, Thur 2-6; Sat 9-12	6 Election Day Selectmen 7:00pm Assessors 9-12 Bd of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3 Bldg Inspector 12:30-3:30	13 Assessors 9-12 Bd of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3 Bldg Inspector 12:30- 3:30	20 Assessors 9-12 Bd of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3 Bldg Inspector 12:30- 3:30	27 Assessors 9-12 Bd of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3 Bldg Inspector 12:30- 3:30
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SUNDAY	Tentative Website: www	4 Daylight Saving Time ends	Veterans Day	18	25

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MONDAY	Tentative- Subject to Ch Town Hall Md Phone: 413-528-0 Website: www.egremont-ma.gov	3 Board of Health 7- 12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	Board of Health 7- 12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	17 Board of Health 7- 12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	24 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	31
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